

As someone who loves radio in all its forms, I must say I am appalled that the National Association of Broadcasters would consider satellite radio's "traffic and weather" style channels to be localized content. These channels really don't take listenership away from terrestrial broadcasters.

What takes listeners away from terrestrial broadcasters? Short playlists, long commercial breaks, innane chatter and so on. I respectfully ask the FCC to oppose the NAB's 04-160 petition. It is a thinly veiled disguise to limit the popularity of satellite radio services in the United States. It will only add one more unnecessary law to the books, one which the satellite radio providers already adhere to under a "gentleman's agreement".

Furthermore, I disagree with the notion that satellite radio providers should be restricted legally from providing locally-differentiated programming from their networks of terrestrial repeaters. This is (or should be) a free market and as such, we should allow all broadcasters of all types to compete as they see fit, no matter what the big-time high-dollar lobbyist groups like the NAB think.